Book Review on “In the Lion’s Den: Israel and the World”

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The term **“in the lion’s den”** idiomatically conveys that the situation where a person is in one of deep challenges, threatening dilemmas, in short danger which is how Israel looks like in the politics of the world now. Broadly, ‘in the lion’s den” profoundly means ‘to be showing an act of bravely going through some adverse situations over a great enemy’. The book is useful in the sense that it sets a benchmark in chasing the growing trends in the nature of Israel’s mission focus as well as his work in the international organization that is the United Nations which aims at depicting rather more good than depicting the challenges of Israel but rather the challenges of growing political ties with Asian region.

Critical Analysis

It is no exaggeration to state that the nook of the Middle East has been conflict prone in the history of mankind, where power/hegemony has always fought with others in the history. There is Israel came into being in 1948 which is always surrounded by the countries whose nation’s most of the time do not want to see the country alive. Israel does not allow this therefore Israel is more tilt towards its high politics (survival and security). When the drift of this contest is viewed with respect to growing Asian nations like China and India, the situation becomes even more alarming.

The texts commence with highlighting the history of wars fought by Israel in the context of its relations with other Arab countries, intertwined, however, with the geopolitics of the Asia region. In recent years, however, states such as China and India have actively participated in the Middle East for reasons such as establishing economic and military ties. This development is particularly interesting for Israel, which has its own romantic relationship with these new rising dragons.

The writer turns away to the causes and manner in which Asian countries have gone in search of the Middle Eastern energy. China which has recently clinched a dipole with the USA through its Belt and Road Initiative is intent on improving and expanding its strategic relations with countries in the region that are rich in oil. Japan on the other hand sought out India striving to broker good relations with both Israel and the Arab World. Danon then in the chapter “Open doors= Open minds” presents the issues arising out of the relationship between Israel and China. Israel is therefore fully open to investment and technological cooperation with Chinese entities, entrepreneurs and companies; however, she can never be at ease with the thought of the dangers that would come from such warming relations with the eastern superpower. He draws attention to the sensitivity of the same level that he should seek, comprising significant expanding China’s economy.

He states other essential initiatives that demonstrate how Israeli technological and agricultural developments meet the needs of the expanding Chinese market. However, the issue of stealing intellectual property and high technology associated with military issues raises some difficult issues within this new relationship. The author helps explain why Israel's relations with China differ by exploring the evolution of Israel-India relations which have deepened over the years. The partnership is forged upon common democratic principles, defense dealings and transfer of technologies between the nations. Danon explains how this kinship is beneficial to both countries: since Israel makes a new friend in an important region of the world, so India acquires the Israeli know-how in matters of national security, cybersecurity, terrorism prevention, and defense technologies. He discusses those significant occasions which bothered, among others conducted military maneuvers and engagements of footing erect religious Indo-Israeli. He also highlights how India's consistent support for Palestine has posed hurdles as well as small openings for engaging in low diplomacy.

As the conflict in the Middle East continues to fuel, the Asian countries respond differently. Danon explains how countries such as Japan and South Korea, which are dependent on oil from the Middle East, try to remain neutral while satisfying their economic needs. He notes in chapter 5 "Israel Should Not Wait for Permission to Act" that they try to act as referees in the short conflicts of regional powers and in that way, construct the region while in fact desiring to expand the area for their economic activities. He points out that these countries are rather practical in the approach to the Middle Eastern controversies: first of all, they seek energy secures and secondly, trade routes.

Conclusion

The strongest focus of this story, perhaps as expected, He devoted the thesis of Israel of the United Nations, which represents turning points between global and regional aspects. He describes how Asian states often vote with Middle East nations in favor of Palestine against Israel in United Nations resolutions and how this vote is reflective of deep political attachment with Pakistan and the past link of these states towards the Palestinian cause. The author highlights the fact that international relations in this region are changing through dramatized diplomatic encounters and painstaking negotiations. Danon asserts the difficulties that Israel endures in the UN, especially how countries that are predominantly Asian and Middle Eastern oppose votes that support Israel. He says that indeed for some time, whilst they may not necessarily have identical political ideologies as the Arab countries, the voting by Asian members will nevertheless, most of the time, be hostile to Israel.

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